

CLAIMS

1. A standardized assay kit for detection of an anti-food antibody
in a stool sample wherein the antibody is detected by observation of a
reaction of the antibody with an antigen present in the kit.

2. The standardized assay kit of claim 1, wherein the kit comprises
a single antigen for detection of a single antibody in a single stool sample.

3. The standardized assay kit of claim 1, wherein the kit comprises
a plurality of antigens for detection of a plurality of antibodies in a single
stool sample.

4. The standardized assay kit of claim 1, wherein the kit comprises
a single antigen for detection of antibody in a plurality stool samples.

5. The standardized assay kit of claim 1, wherein the kit comprises
a plurality of antigens for detection of a plurality of antibodies in a plurality
of stool samples.

6. The standardized assay kit of claim 1, wherein the reaction is
detected by observation of a precipitate.

7. The standardized assay kit of claim 1, wherein the reaction is
detected by observation of an aggregate.

8. The standardized assay kit of claim 1, wherein the assay is
performed by hand.

9. The standardized assay kit of claim 1, wherein the assay is
performed by an automated system.

10. A standardized assay kit for detection of an anti-food antibody
in a stool sample wherein the kit comprises a solid support,
a matrix,
at least one antigen in contact with said matrix,
at least one discrete region on the matrix for application of the stool
sample to allow for interaction between the antigen and the sample,
wherein the antibody is detected by observation of a reaction of the
antibody with an antigen present in the kit.

11. The standardized assay kit of claim 10, wherein the kit
comprises a single antigen for detection of a single antibody in a single
stool sample.

12. The standardized assay kit of claim 10, wherein the kit
comprises a plurality of antigens for detection of a plurality of antibodies
in a single stool sample.

13. The standardized assay kit of claim 10, wherein the kit
comprises a single antigen for detection of antibody in a plurality stool
samples.

14. The standardized assay kit of claim 10, wherein the kit
comprises a plurality of antigens for detection of a plurality of antibodies
in a plurality of stool samples.

15. The kit of claim 10, wherein the matrix comprises a gel.

16. The kit of claim 15, wherein the antigen is incorporated into
the gel.

17. The kit of claim 15, wherein the antigen is loaded into a well in the gel.

18. The kit of claim 10, wherein the matrix comprises latex.

19. The kit of claim 10, wherein the stool sample is placed directly in contact with the antigen.

20. The kit of claim 10, wherein the stool sample is placed adjacent to the antigen.

21. The kit of claim 10, wherein barriers are placed between antigens to prevent cross-contamination.

22. The standardized assay kit of claim 1, wherein the assay is performed by hand.

23. The standardized assay kit of claim 1, wherein the assay is performed by an automated system.

22. A machine for automation of performance of a standardized stool based assay for the detection of anti-food antibodies comprising:

- a holder for receiving a stool sample;
- a centrifuge for the separation of solids from supernatant in a sample;
- a second holder for receiving a test apparatus;
- a fluid handling device for loading the sample supernatant onto the test apparatus;
- a humid chamber for incubation of the test apparatus;
- a detector to detect formation of a precipitate; and
- a recorder to record detection of a precipitate.